

Against the Grain

Volume 26 | Issue 5

Article 25

2014

Kate Pitcher Profile

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Recommended Citation

(2014) "Kate Pitcher Profile," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 26: Iss. 5, Article 25.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.6859>

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access methods. Second, an important consideration in planning a publishing program is infrastructure development. Libraries, in most cases, have already developed a robust infrastructure for collecting, organizing, and maintaining digital collections. The necessary platforms already exist for producing scholarships. Third, the library as publisher assists our higher education institutions in curating and shaping the new learning environment needed to make transformations for the future. Instead of reacting to change, libraries can be proactive on their campuses and lead transformation.

Conclusion & Future

By the end of our second round of funding, the OST project will have published thirty textbooks and will have created a scalable model for library editorial and production services for open access textbook publishing. A sustainability plan, including sources for future funding, is in development to identify ways libraries can support these sorts of resource-intensive and high-impact publishing services. OST's future is dependent on developing such a sustainability plan. To that end, project team members are working on next steps for the project:

- **Print-on-demand:** currently, OST contracts allow authors the right to sell print-on-demand versions of their books through **CreateSpace** or other vendors. While OST team members can provide assistance, all royalties are assigned to the author. A cost recovery model is under development in which print-on-demand options are written into the contract and royalties are shared between OST and the author, 50/50. Currently, **SUNY Counsel** is reviewing contract options for including royalty sharing clauses.
- **Distribution:** currently, Open **SUNY Textbooks** are distributed freely online through our Open Monograph Press (OMP) publishing platform (<http://opensuny.org>). Our scalability and sustainability plan will include an enhanced distribution model. We are negotiating with several vendors to test EPUB distribution of our open textbooks. This would allow for sales of enhanced versions of the textbooks while keeping the free open access versions of the textbooks available at the Open **SUNY Textbook Website**.
- **Hybrid funding:** other funding models are also in development. One idea is to propose a student fee to the **SUNY** student assembly for the creation and development of Open **SUNY Textbooks**. Another idea is to work with an outside corporation with start-up money to support libraries publishing open textbooks. The development of such an outside entity could offer libraries the infrastructure for publishing textbooks, including the platform, incentives for Open

against the grain people profile

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BORN & LIVED: Born and raised in Western New York.

EARLY LIFE: Reading was my constant companion through childhood — it always surprises me that I never thought about being a librarian until a few years out of college — I spent most of my childhood at my local public library, so in hindsight it seems like it should have been a given.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER AND ACTIVITIES: Worked at the **New York Public Library** for two years, then **Rochester Public Library**. I have been at **SUNY Geneseo** in many capacities since 2002; mostly involved with collection development and publishing activities in the past three years. As of July 2014, I am the interim library director. The culture at **Milne Library** is simply one-of-a-kind and innovative — I absolutely love my job.

FAMILY: Husband **Jeff** and three children; **Griffin**, **Silas**, and **Cordelia**.

IN MY SPARE TIME: Read, exercise, and garden with my kids.

FAVORITE BOOKS: Anything by **Kate Atkinson**, **Margaret Atwood**, **Carol Shields**, or **Jill McCorkle**. Love the *Outlander* series by **Diana Gabaldon**.

PET PEEVES: Complaining about problems, but taking no action to solve or create something better — do something.

PHILOSOPHY: The academic library is a place where knowledge is created, produced, and disseminated — we are the curators of the scholarship lifecycle and the sharers of this scholarship. All of our other activities are tied to this and are the reason for why we exist.

MOST MEMORABLE CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: Working with the GIST team on a patron-driven acquisitions system and the work I have been doing with library publishing, working with my colleagues on Library Publishing Toolkit and Open **SUNY Textbooks**.

GOAL I HOPE TO ACHIEVE FIVE YEARS FROM NOW: I would love to see Open **SUNY Textbooks** expand and collaborate with other institutions. Five years from now it would be spectacular if we had a sustainable academic publishing model, collaborative relationships with many other libraries, and open textbook programs and hundreds of titles and **SUNY** authors involved in the program.

HOW/WHERE DO I SEE THE INDUSTRY IN FIVE YEARS: Library publishing developed a lot of forward momentum in the past two years (especially with the formation of groups like the Library Publishing Coalition and publication of best practices documents like the Library Publishing Toolkit) and I think it has potential for transforming our relationships with students and faculty on campus. Publishing the scholarship and pedagogical material of our faculty and students is a natural part of the academic lifecycle and one that should be integrated into the other services we provide such as information literacy instruction and scholarship support services. It's just a matter of time. 🐼

Access at campuses, and the creation of opportunities for professional development.

The future of Open **SUNY Textbooks** is about the future of library publishing and the development of new roles for libraries and librarians. Filling those roles often requires guidance and training for librarians to develop new skills. With this in mind, the OST team is working with libraries across the state to create best practices and professional development opportunities for librarians. One of our partnerships in development is with New York State's NY3Rs Council, a network of local library resource councils, and they are already offering workshops and online learning opportunities for those in the library community who are interested in publishing.

For more information, check out the Open **SUNY Textbooks Website**: <http://opensuny.org/omp/index.php/SUNYOpenTextbooks>. 🐼

Endnotes

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